



Atty. Docket No. KIL01 P-424

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 3763
Applicant : Emmanuel Mastorakis
Appln. No. : 10/069,688
Filing Date : July 15, 2002
Confirmation No. : 3726
For : MEDICAL DEVICE AND LOCKING MECHANISM THEREFOR

RECEIVED

JAN 15 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Kindly cancel claims 4-6, 17, 18, 43 and 44.

Amend claims 1, 7, 8, 13, 16, 19-21, 31 and 32 to read as follows:

B1
1. A locking mechanism for controlling engagement between parts movable relative to one another in medical sharp devices, the mechanism comprising: a retainer part for retaining a medical sharp, the retainer part having a first formation which is engageable with a second formation located on a body part of a medical sharp device and a connector part which is movable relative to the body part to a position in which the connector part and retainer part are in a mutually engaged configuration, wherein the connector part, during movement to the engaged configuration, is adapted to alter the relative engagement between the first and second formations to enable release of the retainer part from the body part, the retainer part including two flexible legs, each leg having a said first formation located thereon, the connector part